

# Mitigation/adaptation and health: Health policymaking in the global response to climate change and implications for other upstream determinants

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#### Abstract:

The time is ripe for innovation in global health governance if we are to achieve global health and development objectives in the face of formidable challenges. Integration of global health concerns into the law and governance of other, related disciplines should be given high priority. This article explores opportunities for health policymaking in the global response to climate change. Climate change and environmental degradation will affect weather disasters, food and water security, infectious disease patterns, and air pollution. Although scientific research has pointed to the interdependence of the global environment and human health, policymakers have been slow to integrate their approaches to environmental and health concerns. A robust response to climate change will require improved integration on two fronts: health concerns must be given higher priority in the response to climate change and threats associated with climate change and environmental degradation must be more adequately addressed by global health law and governance. The mitigation/adaptation response paradigm developing within and beyond the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change provides a useful framework for thinking about global health law and governance with respect to climate change, environmental degradation, and possibly other upstream determinants of health as well.

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# **Resource Description**

#### Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Human Conflict/Displacement, Human Conflict/Displacement, Precipitation, Temperature

Air Pollution: Interaction with Temperature, Ozone

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Wildfires

Food/Water Security: Food Access/Distribution

**Temperature:** Extreme Heat, Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: M

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resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: M

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

# Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation): ☑

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, Infectious Disease, Injury, Morbidity/Mortality, Respiratory Effect

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease, Zoonotic Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne, Mosquito-borne Disease

Mosquito-borne Disease: Dengue, General Mosquito-borne Disease, Malaria

Zoonotic Disease: General Zoonotic Disease

### Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

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mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Resource Type: **№** 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Review

Resilience: M

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: M

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time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified